

City of Central Point

NEWS FROM CITY HALL

Chronic Nuisance Property

All too often, it becomes apparent that something just doesn't seem right. Suspicious activity, people coming in and out of a house, loud noises at all hours of the night; you know that something less than legal is going on in the residence, but you don't know what to do! The Central Point City Municipal Code contains an ordinance that is intended to combat issues such as these. At its core, the Central Point Chronic Nuisance Property Ordinance (C.P.M.C Chapter 8.02) was created as a way to ensure that the liability and positive environment of our City is maintained, and that Central Point continues to be a place that people want to continue to bring their families for years to come.

A chronic nuisance property is defined as "any property on which two or more nuisance activities have occurred during any thirty-day period." There are many types of nuisance activities, ranging from the possession, delivery, or manufacture of a controlled substance to prostitution, assault, or disorderly conduct. When two or more activities of this type are reported to the Central Point Police Department and found to be substantiated by a subsequent investigation, the property associated with these incidents may be considered for registration as a chronic nuisance property. When a property is considered a chronic nuisance, a city employee will prepare a letter that is sent to the homeowner outlining exactly why the property is being considered as such.

After the owner of the property is notified of the situation, the information is passed to the City Attorney and eventually presented to the City Council. If, after both the City Attorney and the Council review the claim, they deem that the property is a chronic nuisance, the property may be secured from entry for six months to a year. This essentially closes the property, preventing anyone involved in the nuisance issues from continuing to do so in the area. If you have any questions regarding the Chronic Nuisance Ordinance please contact the Community Service Officer at 541-664-3321 ext. 251.

*"I don't think I can change the world by myself,
but I think I can at least be an instrument
to chip away a little bit to make society better."*

-Vince Patton



Earthquake Primer

On Friday, January 24, 2014 a magnitude 3.8 earthquake occurred in the Gold Beach /Grants Pass area. This small quake caused strong shaking in surrounding communities. While this quake is nowhere near the predicted 9.0 magnitude shaker associated with the Cascadia Subduction Zone quake, we thought this occurrence was a good reminder to give this topic a little more air time, specifically related to preparedness.



Earthquakes are most often described by their magnitude (M), which is a measure of the total energy released by an earthquake. However, magnitude does not directly translate to severity. The intensity of ground shaking at a given site depends on three additional factors:

- Earthquake epicenter, which is the location on the earth's surface directly above the point of origin of an earthquake.
- Earthquake depth.
- Soil or rock conditions at the site, which may amplify or deamplify earthquake ground motions.

According the Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan, a great magnitude 9.0 earthquake on the Cascadia Subduction Zone would result in widespread damage. However, this earthquake is not the worst case scenario for Central Point. Rather, a smaller, nearby earthquake could result in higher levels of ground shaking and damage for Central Point than a M9.0 Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. The take away message is that the next severe earthquake disaster in Central Point doesn't have to be "the big one," so getting started with disaster preparedness is better started sooner than later. Important things to remember include the following:

- We live in an area that experiences infrequent earthquakes but that doesn't mean they don't occur. Remember it's not a matter of if, but when the next one will occur. The question only you can answer is whether or not you will be ready.
- While your government aims to support residents with resources and master planning to reduce the impacts of disasters on public infrastructure and services, providing for day-to-day needs is the responsibility of every individual and family. At a minimum, plan on having 3 days' worth of food and water plus any other items necessary for survival given your specific circumstances.

- If a shaker happens while you are at work, travel home may be limited due to damaged bridges and roadways. Make sure that you have plans in place to ensure you and your family is safe and well cared for no matter where you are when an event occurs.

- If you need special assistance, sign up for the Jackson County Disaster Registry. There are application forms at City Hall and online on the RVCOG website at www.rvcog.org.

- Attend the Community Disaster Preparedness Workshop on Wednesday March 12th for more information.

There is so much information available about earthquakes and disaster preparedness. The idea is to be prepared as best as possible to lessen the panic when the earth shakes. If you have any questions, contact Rick Bartlett or Stephanie Holtey at 541-664-3321 ext. 244.



City Manager's Note - Where do your Tax Dollars go?

One of the most frequently asked questions of City Staff is where do my tax dollars go? Property taxes are one of the largest streams of revenue for most Oregon cities and are typically directed to the general fund, a pot of money available for general purposes used to provide the majority of services for city residents. Each city's general fund is different, and not all cities provide the same services. Property tax dollars cover everything from police and fire to parks and recreation to road, water, storm drain, and sewer infrastructure maintenance.

The following chart details taxes paid by City of Central Point Residents:

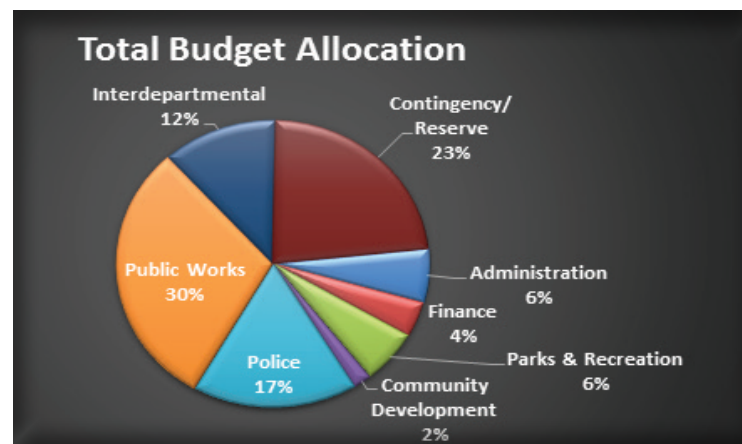
<u>Taxing District</u>	<u>Amount paid per \$1,000 in Assessed Property Value</u>
Jackson County	\$2.009
Jackson County Bond	\$0.1889
City of Central Point	\$4.47
Rogue Community College	\$0.5128
Rogue Community College Bond	\$0.1124
ESD	\$0.3524
School District No. 6	\$4.4134
School District No. 6 Bond	\$1.1787
Jackson County Vector Control	\$0.429
Rogue Vally Transportation District	\$0.1772
Jackson County Soil & Water Condervation District	\$0.05
Fire District No. 3	\$3.1194
TOTAL	\$17.0132 (General Taxes + Bond Taxes)



Property taxes support some of the most important services offered to citizens, and yet in many cities these services are being cut or scaled down. Even though property tax bills have been increasing for most Oregon residents, city expenses are often growing at a far greater rate. Local governments unfortunately have little control over the rising costs of materials (driven by market forces) and personnel (such as PERS, which is governed by policy decisions at the state level), leaving cities to find ways of providing services with less revenue.

The City of Central Point currently collects \$4.47 per \$1000 in assessed property value, although current taxing authority would actually allow a maximum local rate of \$5.28/\$1000. The Central Point City Council has been committed to maintaining current service levels while not increasing the City's tax rate. When considered against total taxes paid by Central Point residents, the City receives approximately 27 cents for every property tax dollar paid to local taxing districts. This graph indicates how all revenue received by the City is allocated by department/service.

The City Council & Staff remain committed to the wise and most efficient use of your tax dollars. Although recent economic conditions have been difficult for both the public and private sectors, Central Point continues to seek common sense solutions that produce beneficial outcomes for local residents and business.



City Elections - Do you want to be an Elected Official?

OPEN POSITIONS (3):

Council Members from Ward I, Ward II and Ward III positions. These are four year terms.

FILING PERIOD

Monday, July 7, 2014, through Monday, August 25, 2014, during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

REQUIREMENTS

At the time of election to City office, a candidate must be a qualified elector as defined in Section 2, Article II of the Oregon Constitution and shall have been a resident within the city limits of Central Point for the twelve-month period immediately preceding the November 2014, election. A candidate seeking office for a Ward position must be a resident of the Ward for which they file. (Ward Maps are available online or at the City Recorders office)

The 2014 City election is regulated by State election law and the City of Central Point Charter and Ordinances. Election forms and petitions must be completed properly and submitted within the designated filing period

listed above. All election forms and petitions should be filed in advance of the final filing day so the forms can be reviewed and the County can verify the signatures on petitions. If deficiencies in the election forms and petitions are found, they must be corrected and resubmitted by the close of business on the final filing day.

For more information on the candidate process please contact City Recorder Deanna Casey at 541-423-1026 or email deanna.casey@centralpointoregon.gov.



AROUND TOWN



CENTRAL POINT SENIOR CENTER

Join the Central Point Senior Center for:

- Exercise on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am. (Free)
- The Senior Singers on Mondays at 11:00 am.
- Play Bingo on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 1:00 pm.

They always have lots of fun, and listen to great music. Come by the Senior Center and pick up a newsletter for more information.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Central Point has two locations to rent plots for your spring/summer garden. The Central Point Community Gardens are located at Hanley Farm and Don Jones Park.

1. The Hanley Farm location has rustic farm-like plots that are 10'x20' and run \$30 for the entire season.



2. The Don Jones Garden has two different sized plots the smaller at 10'x10' and the larger 10' x 20'. They are \$25 for the smaller and \$50 for the larger. The plots are raised beds with city water included. Call Central Point Parks and Recreation for more details or a rental application. 541-664-3321 ext 232 or 263.



FAMILY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COURSE

Are you prepared for the next natural disaster when it hits our community? Is your family, or are your friends and neighbors prepared? Most people are not prepared for a disaster!

This course is presented by Rick Bartlett, City of Central Point Safety Trainer, Emergency Planning Coordinator, and CP's Community Emergency Response Team Program Manager. Guest speaker for both sessions will be Eric Dittmer, Earth Science Professor at Southern Oregon University.

The class will discuss the 600 mile long Cascadia Subduction and will educate citizens on how to deal with the major hazards that are present in southern Oregon that may someday impact every citizen in our region.

Participants need only to bring a note pad, pen or pencil. There will be handouts of emergency supply lists, disaster, preparation information.

Date: Wednesday, March 12

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Location: Council Chambers

Ages: 14+

Cost: Free, call (541) 423-1978 to sign up!



Dates to Remember

March

- 4 - Planning Commission (6 pm)
- 9 - Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 12 - Disaster Preparedness Workshop (7 pm)
- 13 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 17 - Study Session (6 pm)
- 27 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)

April

- 1 - Planning Commission (6 pm)
- 8 - Citizens Advisory Committee (6 pm)
- 10 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 14 - Multicultural Committee (6 pm)
- 21 - Budget Committee Meeting (6 pm)
- 24 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 28 - City Budget and Development Commission Budget Meetings (6 pm)

Meetings are subject to change, please check our website for more information.

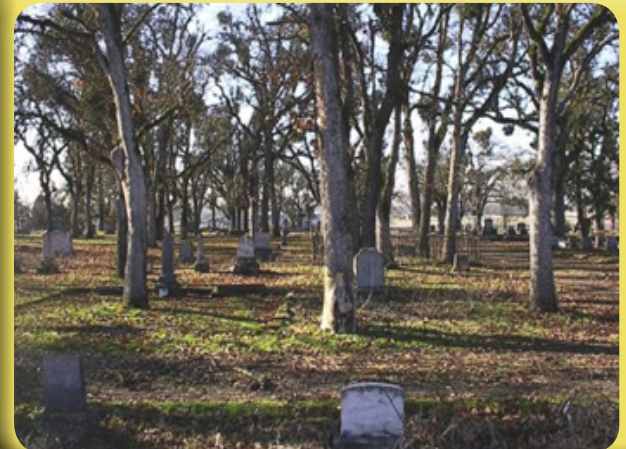
Friends of the Central Point Cemetery

The Friends and Families of the Central Point Cemetery, will resume their monthly community clean-up days at the Central Point Cemetery starting on Saturday, March 8 and continuing on the second Saturday of each month through November.

Dates are:

March 8	April 8	May 10
June 14	July 12	August 9
September 13	October 11	November 8

They will start work at 8:00 a.m. and work until 12 noon. Volunteers are requested to park in the parking lot behind the cemetery grounds in Don Jones Park in order to keep the roadways open and also to protect their vehicles from any possible damage. Volunteers should bring gloves to wear, leaf rakes, pruners, gas operated blowers, weed eaters and lawn mowers, eye and ear protection. Also if you have a truck that can be used to haul off debris that would be a big help.



Questions please call: Dirk J. Siedlecki at 541-826-9939 or Kathy Hooper at 503-320-3800.

City Directory

City Manager
541-423-1026

Building Permits
541-423-1973

Code Enforcement
541-423-1034

Community Development
541-423-1973

Library (Central Point Branch)
541-664-3228

Police (Non Emergency)
541-664-5578

Parks and Recreation
541-664-3321 ext. 232

Public Works
541-423-1028

Public Works After Hours
1-800-726-6476

Utility Billing
541-664-3321 ext. 204

CALL 911
for Fire, Medical and
Police Emergencies

City Hall hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Monday – Friday. Feel free to drop in
with questions, pay a bill, or just say
“hello”.

News from the Finance Department



It's annual budget time! We would like to invite you to join us on April 21th & April 28th for our annual budget meetings. Budget presentations begin at 6 pm in the Council Chambers located at 140 South Third St., Central Point. These are public meetings where the various city departments will present their 2014-15 proposed budgets and projects to the budget committee for consideration and approval. Your input is encouraged and welcome in this planning process for the upcoming fiscal year.

Water Conservation Tips:

At this time with so many gloomy rainy days it is hard to imagine that sunny days will soon be here. We want to share a few water use facts to keep in mind as we head into the warmer months (www.watereducation.org).

Did you know?

- Flushing a toilet uses approximately 5 gallons of water
- A shower or bath uses approximately 10 gallons of water
- Watering a lawn uses approximately 180 gallons of water
- Washing dishes uses approximately 10 gallons of water
- Washing clothes uses approximately 42 gallons of water
- Washing a car uses approximately 50 gallons of water
- Brushing teeth uses approximately 5 gallons of water
- Cooking uses approximately 10 gallons of water
- Drinking uses approximately ½ gallon of water
- A leaking toilet uses approximately 60 gallons of water per day

Contact Your Council

email: info@centralpointoregon.gov



Mayor
Hank Williams
541-994-0066



Council President
Bruce Dingler
541-324-1842



Ward II
Kelly Geiger
541-944-3102



Ward III
Ellie George
541-601-9582



Ward IV
Allen Broderick
541-951-7253



At-Large
David Douglas
541-601-5593



At-Large
Rick Samuelson
541-664-1878

If you are not sure who your representative is call 541-423-1026